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## Borough of Aylesbury.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

on the Health of the Borough  
for the year 1939



JOHN T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,  
M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Barrister at Law,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

ALFRED LEE,  
A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.  
*Borough Sanitary Inspector.*

## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor	T. GOODCHILD ( <i>Chairman</i> ),
„	Mrs. Paterson ( <i>The Mayor</i> ),
Alderman	J. J. Evett ( <i>Deputy Mayor</i> ).
„	A. T. Adkins, J.P.
„	P. R. Eaton.
„	G. J. Thrasher, O.B.E., J.P.
Councillor	Mrs. Coventon, M.B.E.
„	F. B. Howard.
„	W. Johnson.
„	A. West ( <i>Vice-Chairman</i> ).

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## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

### Medical Officer of Health :-

John T. C. Sims Roberts, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H., Barrister-at-Law.

### Sanitary Inspectors :-

Alfred Lee, A.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.,  
*Borough Sanitary Inspector.*

Robert W. Johnson, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.,  
*Additional Borough Sanitary Inspector.*

Douglas Andrew, A.R.San.I.,  
*Junior Sanitary Inspector.*

### Clerical Staff :-

Dennis W. Rixon.

# Borough of Aylesbury.

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Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Aylesbury.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of  
Aylesbury.

Mr. Mayor, Alderman and Councillors,

It is my privilege and honour to submit the annual survey for 1939 upon the health and medical services in the Borough.

The latter end of the year saw an influx of many hundreds of children and adults who were officially and unofficially evacuated into the town from the London area. This advent of a new population tested the Department to the utmost, and I am glad to record that, the help of voluntary organisations in the town, coupled with the unstinting co-operation of many of the inhabitants, was largely responsible for a good general standard of health and cleanliness being maintained. The organised dispersal of the child population throughout the country proved a valuable check to epidemic outbreaks which otherwise would have menaced the health of communities suddenly called upon to cope with uncontrolled mass migration.

This absence of any severe epidemic in the Aylesbury Borough and district enabled full use to be made of the Aylesbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital in dealing with sporadic outbreaks and providing observation of cases from closed communities.

Following upon unsatisfactory reports on the analysis of the water at the Bourbon Street Indoor Swimming Bath and an adverse report upon the obsolete design which precluded adequate purification, the pool was closed in July.

Samples from the open-air swimming pool, controlled by a modern filtration and chlorinating plant, continue to give satisfactory results.

The Borough Surveyor has kindly furnished me with the Borough meteorological annual statistics.

I am pleased to record my appreciation of Mr. A. Lee, the Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Borough, whose annual survey is embodied in this report, and all members of the staff for their loyal assistance.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**JOHN T. C. SIMS-ROBERTS,**

M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,

L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## Section A.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITION OF THE AREA.

Area .....	3,288 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of :—	
(a) resident population, mid-1939 .....	14,850
(b) average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates .....	15,680
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Books .....	4,692
Rateable Value .....	£126,337
Sum represented by a penny rate .....	£474

The chief industries are agriculture, printing, production of butter, cheese and tinned milk, rivet manufacture and hat making.

## Unemployment At December 31st, 1939 :—

	236 men
	28 women
	<hr/>
Total	264
	<hr/>

## At December 31st, 1938 :—

	300 men
	50 women
	<hr/>
Total	350
	<hr/>

## VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births — Legitimate .....	249	125	124
Illegitimate .....	9	6	3
Still Births — Legitimate .....	12	5	7
Illegitimate .....	0	0	0
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1939			17.37
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....			18.18
	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths .....	163	84	79
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population....			10.40

## Deaths from Puerperal causes

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis	0	0
Other puerperal causes	0	0

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths of infants under one year of age	10	4	6
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1,000 live births			38.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			35.9
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			0

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	23	12	11
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0	0	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	1	1	0

## Section B.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

**Pathological Specimens.** Pathological specimens are examined at: (1) The Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, South Parks Road Oxford, and (2) The Institute of Pathology, Halton (Air-Commodore H. E. Whittingham, C.B.E.).

**Voluntary Hospital.** The town and district is excellently served by the Royal Bucks Hospital (115 beds), which is centrally situated in the County and Borough. There is also a new commodious out-patients' department fitted with modern equipment.

**Maternity and Child Welfare.** The Infant Welfare Centre is under the control of the Bucks. County Council at Pebble Lane, and is open every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The premises are also used for a dental clinic and as a centre for diphtheria immunisation. Thirteen children were immunised against diphtheria during 1939.

**Infectious Disease Hospital.** The area is served by the Aylesbury Joint Board Isolation Hospital (45 beds), situated on the outskirts of the town within the Borough boundary, between Aylesbury and Stoke Mandeville. It consists of a scarlet fever (18

beds), and diphtheria block (18 beds), in which are observation wards planned on modern lines, together with a separate cubicle block. A well equipped motor ambulance is garaged on the premises for the use of the district served by the hospital. The Medical Officer of Health is the Medical Superintendent, and the nursing staff consists of a Matron, Deputy Matron, two trained staff nurses, and six probationers.

**Ambulance Services of the Borough.** The St. John's Ambulance Brigade maintain three ambulances for dealing with accident and other cases. The ambulance services of the Borough are adequate.

### Section C.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Water Supply.** The Borough comes wholly within the area served by the Chiltern Hills Spring Water Company.

Samples of water for analysis and bacteriological examination are taken from different areas in the Borough each month and the result is submitted to the Health Committee. A gathering ground well isolated from habitations, and situated in the chalk of the Chiltern Hills at New Ground and Dancers End, has produced a supply excellent in quality for many years. Certain difficulties have been experienced in the pressure of the water, but the installation of a new main during the year has improved this.

Following is a copy of an analysis made in December, 1939.

Total solids dried at 180 degrees C....	...	...	...	16.0.
Chlorine in Chlorides	...	...	...	1.3.
Free Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0020.
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	...	0.0008.
Nitrogen in Nitrites	...	...	...	0.34.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours	...	...	...	0.000.

Physical Examination: Appearance: grey-white suspension and deposit of chalk. Settles bright. Normal colour. Odourless.

Hardness: Temporary 5.0; Permanent 4.5; Total—9.5.

The Analyst stated that the water was of a high degree of organic and bacterial purity, pure and wholesome in character, and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

**Drainage and Sewerage.** The drainage and sewerage of the Borough is satisfactory, and is on the partially separate system, surface water from streets and buildings being discharged to water-courses at various points. Owing to the differences in level, four localities are provided with pumping stations to lift the sewage



into the main sewers. These are situated at Mandeville Road, Buckingham Road, California, and Tring Road. There is also a small pump house in Oxford Road to deal with an individual property.

**Sewage Disposal.** The Sewage Disposal Works, an account of which was given in the Annual Report for 1937, remains unaltered.

**Closet Accommodation.** No closets on the conservancy system exist in the town, all existing closets are water flushed.

**Public Sanitary Conveniences.** The supervision of these conveniences is now under the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The centre of the town is well served by the conveniences for both sexes under the island in Kingsbury Square, used as a centre for omnibus services, and also by the ladies' Convenience in the Market Square, and the Gentlemen's Convenience adjoining the Cattle Market. There are modern conveniences (erected in 1937) for both sexes at the Vale, High Street.

**Public Cleansing.** This has proceeded in a satisfactory manner.

**Sanitary Inspection of the Area.** Inspections made under the Public Health Acts were as follows:—

Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	1,049.
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	261.
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	1,558.
Dairies and Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	320.
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	124.
Infected House Visits	...	...	...	...	26.
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	22.

**Smoke Abatement.** Smoke nuisances from various factory chimneys have been reported and vigilance has to be maintained in one section of the Borough against infringement of the law.

**Open Air Swimming Pool, Park Street.** The purification of the open-air swimming pool continues satisfactorily.

**Indoor Swimming Bath, Bourbon Street.** Following unsatisfactory reports on the water, from the Clinical Research Association, this was closed in July.

#### **Eradication of Bed Bugs.**

1. (a) Council houses infested 1
- (b) Other houses infested 16
- 17 disinfested.

2. Methods employed for disinfection are spraying and gassing. The insecticide used being "Zaldecide" and the fumigants are "Cimex" and "Furmex" blocks.

3. When moving persons from condemned houses the furniture is treated against vermin.

4. All disinfection is carried out by the Local Authority.

5. The Sanitary Inspector advises the tenant on precautions to be taken against recurrence.

**Schools.** The general sanitary condition of the Elementary Schools continues good, and the water supply is sufficient.

#### Local Rainfall.

January .....	4.14 inches	July .....	3.85 inches
February .....	1.06 "	August ....	2.72 "
March .....	1.70 "	September ..	0.46 "
April .....	2.44 "	October ....	5.01 "
May .....	0.88 "	November....	4.43 "
June .....	1.94 "	December ..	2.02 "

Total rainfall for the year = 30.65 inches.

### Section D.

#### HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	105
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	225
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	69
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose...	148
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	102



2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	...	...	...	...	91
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	0
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	0
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	0
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	0
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects remedied after service of formal notices:—

(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	0
---------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	0
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	0
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	0
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	0
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

## 4. Housing Act, 1936 (Part IV.—Overcrowding):—

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year...	...	...	...	...	...	0
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	...	...				0
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	...				0
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	...	...	...	...	1
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	...				6
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	0
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...					nil

There are now no overcrowding cases within the knowledge of the Public Health Department in the Borough.

## Section E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) **Milk Supply.**—Pasteurisation is carried out on a large scale at Messrs. Nestle's and the Aylesbury Co-operative Society's premises. Frequent samples are taken to ensure that the plant is working satisfactorily and that the raw milk is up to standard in fat content.

There are four Tuberculin-Tested milk retailers in the Borough, as follows:—

1. Mr. R. Lanchbury, Hadley Herd Dairies, Hartwell.
2. Messrs. J. Lisley & Son, Tring Road, Aylesbury.
3. Mr. F. J. Davis (Junior), "Homefield," Bierton.
4. Mr. R. S. Pearce, Marsh Road, Stoke Mandeville.

## (b) Meat and Other Foods.

*Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed .. ..	1,084	356	5,724	2,203
Number inspected ..	505	96	1,388	981
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>				
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	3	3	10	14
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	26	1	19	32
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	5.74%	4.17%	2.09%	4.69%
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>				
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	3	—	—	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	17	—	—	44
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	3.96%	—	—	4.79%

## Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS  
AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Smallpox .. ..	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever .. ..	12	10	0
Diphtheria .. ..	3	3	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid ..	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	14	0	0
Pneumonia .. ..	8	0	10
Cerebro-Spinal meningitis .. ..	3	3	0
Erysipelas .. ..	5	5	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0
Dysentery .. ..	1	1	0

*Incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year with Analysis  
under Age Groups.*

	0-1 yr.	1-2 yrs.	2-3 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	4-5 yrs.	5-10 yrs.	10-15 yrs.	15-20 yrs.	20-25 yrs.	35-45 yrs.	45-65 yrs.	Over 65 yrs.	TOTALS.
Smallpox .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever .....	—	1	1	—	6	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	12
Diphtheria .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	3
Enteric Fever .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	5	—	—	14
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	8
Cerebro-Spinal meningitis..	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Erysipelas .....	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	2	—	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1

Diphtheria Immunisation is carried out at the Infant Welfare Centre, Pebble Lane, at the request of parents.

Thirteen children were immunised against diphtheria during 1939.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1— .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
0— .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 — .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5— .. ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15— .. ..	—	3	1	2	1	1	—	—
25— .. ..	6	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
35— .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
45— .. ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55— .. ....	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	8	3	4	1	4	—	—

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

Under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and the Public Health Act, 1936, visits have been paid to mechanical and non-mechanical factories and workplaces, and informal action taken where necessary to remedy contraventions of the requirements of these Acts.

### ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

#### PARTS I AND VIII.

#### 1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.		Number of	
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power .. .. .	162	5	Nil.
Factories without mechanical power .. .. .			
TOTAL .. .. .	162	5	Nil.

#### 2. Defects found.

Particulars.	Number of defects.			
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	In respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding (Sec. 2) .....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (Sec. 3) .....	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (Sec. 4) .....	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (Sec. 6) .....	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7) .....	—	—	—	—
Insufficient .....	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Other offences .....	1	1	—	—
TOTAL .....	5	5	—	—

#### Outwork in Unwholesome Premises.

It was not found necessary to take any action in respect of outworkers' premises.





**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
**1939**



# Borough of Aylesbury.

*Public Health Department,  
Town Hall,  
Aylesbury.*

1st January, 1940.

**Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,**

This, my Annual Report on the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1939, is the Thirty-First Annual Report it has been my privilege to submit, and normally, I regret to say, may be the last.

## NUISANCES, CONTRAVENTIONS OF BYELAWS, ETC.

Complaints received and investigated. ....	7
Nuisances, etc., found without complaint. ....	51
Nuisances, etc., abated. ....	46
Statutory Notices served under the Public Health Acts..	Nil
Informal Notices served under the Public Health Acts..	37
Prosecutions. ....	Nil

For the Thirty-First year in succession no prosecution against a property owner has been recorded and I suggest the seven complaints received of nuisances is a wonderful tribute to the conditions existing in the Borough.

## HOUSES AND PREMISES INSPECTED.

The total number of inspections under the *Public Health Acts* was 5,085. This figure includes the following :—

Dairies and Cowsheds. ....	320
Bakehouses. ....	124
Butchers' Shops. ....	261
Slaughterhouses. ....	1,049
Food Shops. ....	1,558
Visits under the Tuberculosis Order. ....	10
Infected House Visits. ....	26
Marine Stores. ....	111
Smoke Observations. ....	22
Miscellaneous Visits. ....	24

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3,505

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## HOUSING ACT, 1936.

During the year 181 houses have been measured up and Permitted Number Certificates in respect of them issued to the owners.

## DEMOLITION ORDERS.

A demolition order was served in 1938 in connection with the premises known as No. 126, Cambridge Street, and these were demolished early in the year.

## HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

In addition to the foregoing, the ordinary work of Housing Inspection has been steadily proceeded with as shown by the following :

Houses Inspected and Recorded.....	69
Houses Re-inspected.....	286
Statutory Notices served upon owners.....	Nil
Informal Notices served upon owners.....	53
The defects dealt with under these notices were as follows:—	
Defective Roofs.....	22
„ Paths and Yard Pavings.....	7
„ Interior Wall Plaster.....	8
„ Ceilings.....	14
„ Windows.....	26
„ Board Floors.....	12
„ Solid Floors.....	7
„ Staircases.....	5
Dirty Rooms Renovated.....	51
Defective Coppers.....	2
„ Stoves and Firegrates.....	16
Sinks provided.....	8
Defective sink wastes and traps.....	24
Defective Floor Ventilation.....	4
Dampness in walls.....	46
Defective chimneys.....	16
Walls repaired and repointed.....	20
Defective flushing apparatus.....	7
New W.C. Pans provided.....	6
Foul W.C. Pans.....	2
Flushing cisterns supplied to closets.....	1
Defective gully traps and surrounds.....	3
Drains unstopped.....	7
„ examined and tested.....	117
„ re-laid.....	8
Ventilation shafts.....	6
Defective Rainwater pipes and Gutters.....	26
Dustbins provided.....	17

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE. .

The notifications of infectious disease during the year numbered 68.

Rooms disinfected.....	18
Visits to infected premises.....	26

## DISINFESTATION.

During the year 97 rooms together with the furniture therein have been sprayed or gassed against vermin.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Mechanical factories on the register requiring visiting.....	38
Non-mechanical factories on the register requiring visiting.....	79
Visits paid to factories.....	162

## PREMISES ON THE REGISTER REQUIRING VISITING.

Bakehouses.....	15
Dairies.....	16
Cowsheds.....	12
	—
	43
	==

Visits paid to Bakehouses.....	124
Visits paid to Cowsheds and Dairies.....	320
	—
	444
	==

NOTICES SERVED *re* CLEANSING, WATER SUPPLY, Etc.

Cowsheds and Dairies.....	58
Bakehouses.....	32
Factories and Workplaces.....	5
	—
	95
	==

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Three Cowkeepers within the Borough are licenced by the County Council as producers of "Accredited" milk. Another Cowkeeper is licenced by the County Council to produce "Tuberculin Tested" Milk.

Two dairies hold "Pasteuriser's" licences, three milk purveyors are licenced to retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk, one to retail "Pasteurised" milk, and another purveyor is licenced to bottle and retail "Tuberculin Tested" milk. These licences are issued by the Borough Council.

### SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND FOOD SUPPLY.

Old Registered Slaughterhouses in the Borough.....	9
Slaughterhouses Licenced Annually.....	2
Slaughterhouse Inspections.....	1,049
Butcher's Shops Inspections.....	261
Food Shops Inspections.....	1,558
Notices served <i>re</i> Cleansing.....	45

Under the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations the number of animals notified for slaughter during the year was as follows :—

	<i>Beasts.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
First Quarter....	211	97	1,075	545	1,928
Second Quarter..	196	95	1,314	567	2,172
Third Quarter....	251	80	1,541	440	2,312
Fourth Quarter..	426	84	1,794	651	2,955
	1,084	356	5,724	2,203	9,367

The number of carcasses examined was as follows :—

	<i>Killed.</i>	<i>Examined.</i>	<i>Percentage.</i>
Beef.....	1,084	505	46.59%
Calves.....	356	96	26.97%
Sheep.....	5,724	1,388	24.25%
Pigs.....	2,203	981	44.53%
	9,367	2,970	31.11%

The following mentioned unsound food was surrendered and destroyed during 1939 :—

Beef.....	2,638
Beef Offals.....	801
Pork.....	1,905
Pork Offals.....	177
Mutton.....	539
Mutton Offals.....	47½
Veal.....	260
Miscellaneous.....	177½
	6,545 lbs.

2 Tons, 18 Cwts., 1 Quarter, 21 lbs.



It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings during the year, and the meat traders are to be congratulated upon the methods adopted to protect meat from dust and flies, for the general cleanliness of their premises and their slaughterhouses, and for the care taken to ensure that no unnecessary suffering is inflicted upon the animals intended for food.

Under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, all slaughterhouses were specially inspected with a view to licences being issued. A report upon the conditions found was presented to the Committee and a copy of suggested repairs and alterations to slaughterhouses was sent where necessary to each slaughterhouse owner. The Committee eventually decided to withhold all licences until after the war.

My thanks, also those of the general public, are again due to the Aylesbury Cattle Insurance Society, whose efforts do so much to guarantee a disease free meat supply to everyone trading in this Borough, but as the Ministry of Food propose to purchase all cattle during the war, and stand the loss of anything found unsound, it appears the work of this Society will have to cease for the time being, yet I trust, when normal times return, steps will immediately be taken, not only to revive, but to greatly enlarge its activities.

#### PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1928.

Licences issued for the storage of petroleum spirit.....	71
Licences issued for the storage of Carbide of Calcium....	11
Total fees received for the above licences.....	£53 5s. 0d.

Quantity licenced to be kept :—

Petroleum Spirit. ....	137,101 gallons.
Carbide of Calcium. ....	3,152 lbs.

Inspection of Carbide and Petrol stores.....	61
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#### CANAL BOATS ACTS AND REGULATIONS.

Boats Inspected.....	15
Notices served.....	Nil
Infringements.....	Nil

The condition of the boats and their occupants was satisfactory. There was no infectious disease on any boat.

## SHOPS ACTS.

These Acts, constantly being added to and amended, are very difficult to administer, and if thoroughly carried out would need a full time Officer for the work. The Committee has made arrangements whereby more time is being given to them, especially in the matter of inspections, whilst the Department is always at the service of the shop-keepers who need explanation of the various sections.

334 visits were made during the year.

## GENERAL.

Whilst it is possible to give in the above a brief outline of the work carried out by the Department, it is not possible to show the time taken up by interviews, the drafting of licences, housing records, and all other clerical work falling upon your Health Department. You may perhaps find some of the figures do not compare favourably with previous reports, and if so, I would remind you of the extraordinary time put in by all concerned in dealing with evacuees and billeting, loss of staff by recruiting, and personally, food rationing.

Further, the management of the Public Lavatories has been transferred to the Health Department and at the moment I am far from satisfied with the present arrangements, especially with regard to cost and the method adopted for obtaining supplies.

I take this opportunity to thank the Health Committee, my colleagues, and my very small staff, for the consideration and assistance rendered me during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

**ALFRED LEE, F.S.I.A., A.R. San.I.,**  
*Borough Sanitary Inspector.*



